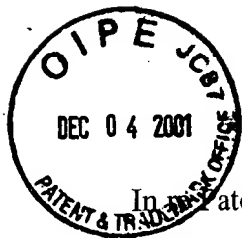


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Application No. 09/917,633

Docket No. 740756-2345



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Patent Application of:)

Shunpei YAMAZAKI et al.)

Serial No. 09/917,633)

Group Art Unit: 2811

Filed: July 31, 2001)

For: Semiconductor Device and Method of)

Fabricating the Same)

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of the document cited is enclosed.

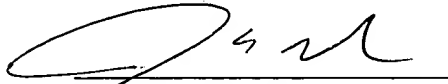
The undersigned certifies that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office, in connection with a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this statement.

It is requested that the accompanying information disclosure statement be considered and made of record in the above-captioned application. To assist the Examiner, the document is listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees connected with this filing which may be required now, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-2380.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. E. Howard', written over a horizontal line.

James E. Howard
Registration No. 39,715

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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/917,633
Filing Date	July 31, 2001
First Named Inventor	Shunpei YAMAZAKI et al.
Group Art Unit	2811
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	740756-2345

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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